

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph [0139] with the following amended paragraph:

**[0139]** The front clamp 72 closes on the thickest book 54 in a range of thicknesses at approximately 350° in the operating cycle of the apparatus (Fig. 12). The exact time when the front clamps 72 grips a book 54 depends on the thickness of the book. The velocity of the shuttle 48 matches the velocity of the front table 28 from the time when the clamp 72 would have engaged the thickest book in the range of thicknesses until the clamp would have engaged the thinnest book in the range of thicknesses. Engagement of the clamp 72 with the thickest book occurs at approximately 350° ~~9Fig. (Fig. 12)~~ in the operating cycle of the apparatus 20. Engagement of the clamp 72 with the thinnest book occurs at approximately 20° in the operating cycle of the apparatus 20.

Please replace the paragraph [0145] with the following amended paragraph:

**[0145]** At this time, 73° in the operating cycle, the transfer belts 2564 and 256 are moving at the same speed as the front table 28 (Figs. 12 and 13). Thus, the lower run of the upper transfer belt 254 ~~9Fig. (Fig. 9)~~ is moving forwardly at the same speed as the front table 28. Therefore, the only relative movement between the transfer belts 254 and 256 and the book 54 is the result of a closing of the outer end portion of the transfer belts downwardly against the upper side surface 104 of the book.

Please replace the paragraph [0150] with the following amended paragraph:

**[0150]** The side table clamps 102 ~~9Fig. (Fig. 11)~~ have gripped the book 54 to hold the book against movement relative to the side table 44. In addition, the side knives 40 and 42 are moving downwardly and forwardly, in the manner indicated by the arrow 362 in Fig. 18, to trim the book 54 with a shear type cutting action. The transfer belts 254 and 256 are moving at the same speed as the side table 44. Therefore, there is no relative movement between the transfer belts 254 and 256 and the book moving with the side table 54. When the side trim cuts have

been completed, both the side clamps 102 and the side knives 40 and 42 are retracted and the fully trimmed book is moved off of the side table 44 to the receiving conveyor 36 in the manner previously explained.